

in the accented syllable of seventy-one generic names the vowel quantity as used in ancient prosody; but this has no bearing whatever upon the English method of pronouncing any of the names in his long list. Dr. Gray (and Dr. Watson and Dr. Britton after him) used the grave accent ` to indicate, not Latin quantity, but that the vowel over which it stood was to have the so-called long English sound; and the acute accent ´ to indicate, not that the vowel was short in Latin prosody, but was to have the "short-vowel" sound when pronounced by the English method.

It is hard to believe that Mr. Pease would have us pronounce RHUS as though spelled RŪSE, or RÒSA as though spelled Rŏs'sA, and THÛMUS as though spelled Thŷm'mus, ÀCER as though Ās'sER, CLÉMATIS as CLĒ-MATIS, LÍLIUM as LĪ-LIUM. He admits that the English method of pronouncing Latin is "so firmly established in this country for scientific names that nothing short of a revolution in pronunciation could supplant it." But such changes as those just cited are contrary to the first principles of the English method, and decidedly revolutionary; at the same time they are equally far from what is commonly supposed to have been the pronunciation of the ancient Romans.

We have an excellent statement of the rules for pronouncing Latin by the English method in Harkness' Latin Grammar; and the subject is well discussed in most pronouncing dictionaries of Greek and Roman proper names. A few hours' study of these rules would enable our botanists to pronounce names of plants uniformly and consistently. What we hear now is frequently, not the Roman method nor the "continental method," but a medley of these with the English method.

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#### AN ALPINE ADIANTUM.

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To a botanist who is familiar with the Maidenhair Fern, *Adiantum pedatum*, of rich deciduous woods of New England and the Alleghenies, and who looks upon that species as the northernmost American representative of a large tropical and subtropical genus, it is a



great surprise to find on the Shickshock Mountains of the Gaspé Peninsula a beautiful Adiantum covering hundreds of acres of alpine tableland. There, on the naked tableland of Mt. Albert and along the ice-cold streams of the alpine district, is an Adiantum forming broad bands of blue-green wherever the water from the cold bogs or melting snow-fields trickles through crevices of the greenish-brown serpentine.

Ordinarily the plant is strongly caespitose, very many stiff glaucous stipes springing from the crowns of the firmly entangled rootstocks. These rigid stipes are rarely more than 2 decimeters high, often scarcely 1 dm., though exceptional clumps have stipes fully 2.5 dm. tall. The blue-green fronds are from 0.5 to 2 dm. across, and the pinnae usually strongly ascending, without the long graceful curve which in *A. pedatum* causes the tips of the primary branches nearly to meet. In exposed sunny situations the small firm pinnules are peculiarly twisted, but in sheltered ravines they are quite flat and normal.

The plant is evidently a close ally of our Alleghenian *Adiantum pedatum*, but careful comparison with this plant of the woodlands shows the Mt. Albert fern to have certain characters which are noteworthy. Besides its small stature, ascending scarcely recurved pinnae and very firm texture the Adiantum of the Shickshocks differs in having the lower marginal rib of the pinnules more prominent, while the finer veins of the pinnules are more obscure than in *A. pedatum*. The teeth at the tips of the pinnules of the Mt. Albert plant are acute and often very fine, while those of the Alleghenian *A. pedatum* are rounded. But the best character, perhaps, is in the indusium. In *A. pedatum* this is transversely linear, varying much in length (usually from 2 to 5 mm. long) but always of a linear or short-oblong outline (about 1 mm. broad). In the Mt. Albert plant the indusia are more lunate, rarely twice as long as broad.

Study of the material in the Gray Herbarium shows that the plant of Mt. Albert, though usually dwarfed, is the characteristic Adiantum of wet rocks and mountain-gulches from Idaho and California north to Alaska, where it has passed as *A. pedatum*, and that it reappears in northeastern Asia. It is unquestionably the fern listed without description by Presl as *Adiantum boreale* " (*A. pedatum* ex Unalaschka *Kaulf. et herb. Chamisso*),"<sup>1</sup> which was afterward taken up and

<sup>1</sup> Presl, Tent. Pterid. 158 (1836).



described by Ruprecht as *A. pedatum*, var. *aleuticum*.<sup>1</sup> Ruprecht's material was from Unalashka and Kadiak Island, and specimens from that region are clearly identical with those from Mt. Albert. Occasional specimens from northwestern America and some from eastern Asia show very evident transitions to typical *A. pedatum*, and, although he failed in his diagnosis to point out some leading characteristics of the fern, it is probable that Ruprecht's treatment of the plant was best and that it should be known as *Adiantum pedatum* L., var. *aleuticum* Ruprecht.

GRAY HERBARIUM.

RECENTLY RECOGNIZED SPECIES OF CRATAEGUS  
IN EASTERN CANADA AND NEW ENGLAND, — VI.

C. S. SARGENT.

(Continued from page 185.)

PUNCTATAE.

Stamens 20; anthers pale rose.

**Crataegus umbratilis**, n. sp. Leaves obovate to rhombic or sub-orbicular, acute or short-pointed and acuminate at the apex, gradually narrowed and concave-cuneate at the long entire base, sharply doubly serrate above, with straight glandular teeth, and divided above the middle into 3 or 4 pairs of short broad acute lobes, about half-grown when the flowers open at the end of May and then membranaceous, glabrous with the exception of a few pale hairs along the upper side of the midribs and veins, light yellow-green, smooth and lustrous above and pale below, and at maturity thin, glabrous, dark yellow-green and lustrous on the upper and paler on the lower surface, 6–7 cm. long and 5–7 cm. wide, with thin orange-colored midribs, and slender inconspicuous primary veins extending obliquely to the points of the lobes; petioles slender, broadly wing-margined at the apex, deeply grooved, glabrous, glandular, with occasional scattered persistent glands, 2–3 cm. in length; leaves on vigorous shoots more

<sup>1</sup> Ruprecht, Distrib. Crypt. Vasc. in Imp. Ross. 49 (1845).